

## Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/SOV:MGARRISON:LM

APPROVED BY EUR - J. A. ARMITAGE

C - MR. SHINN

S/S:WHLUERS

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TO AMEMBASSY PARIS NIACI IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 036644

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, UR

SUBJECT: US-SOVIET TRADE AND ECONOMIC COUNCIL

FOR SONNENFELDT AND HARTMAN

1. SECRETARY SIMON IS SCHEDULED TO RECEIVE THE SOVIET  
MEMBERS OF THE TRADE AND ECONOMIC COUNCIL AT 10:00 A.M.  
FEBRUARY 19. TREASURY (BENNETT) HAS REQUESTED GUIDANCE.  
WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS IN TIME FOR HIS MEETING  
ON THE FOLLOWING FORMULATION FOR DEALING WITH THE  
LEGISLATIVE PROBLEM, BASED ON THE SECRETARY'S PRESS  
CONFERENCE OF JANUARY 28 AND HIS GREAT DECISIONS INTERVIEW  
OF FEBRUARY 5:

BEGIN TEXT. THE ADMINISTRATION WILL IN SOME WEEKS  
BEGIN CONSULTATIONS WITH THE CONGRESS AS TO APPROPRIATE  
STEPS TO BE TAKEN REGARDING US-SOVIET TRADE. IN THESE  
CONSULTATIONS WE WILL SEEK TO MAKE SURE THAT WHEN WE DO  
PUT FORWARD TRADE LEGISLATION IT WILL BE ON THE BASIS  
OF CONSENSUS BETWEEN THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE CONGRESS.  
WE WILL HOPE IN THAT WAY TO AVOID THE KIND OF CONTRO-  
VERSY THAT MARKED THE TWO YEARS OF THE PREVIOUS DEBATE.  
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RATHER TO SHOW HOW WE CAN SOLVE THE COMMON PROBLEM.

END TEXT.

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2. IN ADDITION, SECRETARY SIMON WISHES GUIDANCE ON HOW TO HANDLE THE PROBLEM OF SCHEDULING THE APRIL SESSION OF THE JOINT COMMERCIAL COMMISSION. THE SOVIETS HAD PROPOSED THE LAST TWO WEEKS IN APRIL AND SECRETARY SIMON HAD WANTED TO CONFIRM THE MEETING FOR APRIL 15-22, BUT HELD UP PENDING THE SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH GROMYKO IN GENEVA. ALKHIMOV WILL PROBABLY RAISE THIS QUESTION AND SIMON WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO GIVE AN ANSWER.

3. BOTH SIMON AND DENT HAVE ALSO ASKED IF THERE WAS ANYTHING IN TRADE/ECONOMIC AREA IN SEC/GROMYKO CONVERSATIONS OF WHICH THEY SHOULD BE AWARE. MAW

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